

Date: Thu, 2 Dec 93 07:02:23 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1415  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Thu, 2 Dec 93                      Volume 93 : Issue 1415

Today's Topics:

                    API for HAM CALL  
                    Help on Kenwood 2m all mode  
                    Instant Licenses  
                    Logging program for casual contacts  
                    Modem Software to Alert Many Pagers?  
                    Pyramid Schemes  
                    using a radio off frequency in emergencies (2 msgs)  
                    VHF in Virgin Islands  
                    W5YI's coverage of "temporary callsigns" (2 msgs)  
                    YHelp with Yaesu FT11R

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 2 Dec 93 00:25:17 GMT  
From: uswnvg!cjackso@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: API for HAM CALL  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Dan Bowker [x 6587] (ddb@tntvax.ntns.com) wrote:  
: I'm about to buy the new HAMCALL CD.

: Is there an API for the database, or is there a way to read it directly?

Dunno for sure about HAMCALL, but have you looked at 'QRZ Hamradio' from  
Walnut Creek? It's significantly cheaper (\$20 as opposed to \$50+ the  
last time I checked) and comes with a "reader" program, as well as the

(C) source for rolling your own. Also, in a few weeks I'll have (will post somewhere, probably on Compu\$erve) an ACCESS BASIC module that will look up the offset of a call and then return you all of the data for a given call.

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Clay Jackson - N7QNM  
US WEST NewVector Group Inc  
Bellevue, WA  
uunet!uswnvg!cjackso

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 16:00:11 GMT  
From: pacbell.com!sgiblab!swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!EU.net!news.inesc.pt!animal.inescn.pt!bart!avale@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Help on Kenwood 2m all mode  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Hello,

I have one Kenwood TR751E all mode 2m, and I need use the tone encoder TU-7 that I already have. In the schematic and technical manual do not refer what to do with the config. diodes D3, D4, D5, D6 and D7 on the Control Unit. What are the individual function of each other. The D14 is on the owner manual and is to config. the step, but the others!? I only need to inform the unit that he has the TU-7 installed.

If anyone of you have this kind of information, or the email/internet of Kenwood, I will thank you a lot.

73, Antonio (CT1DZY) E-mail: avale@bart.inescn.pt

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Date: 2 Dec 93 14:20:57 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Instant Licenses  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Here are my thoughts on the 'instant' license proposal. I am an Extra Class Ham, been licensed for 14 year, am a VE, co-founder of our local club and our repeater trustee/licensee.

\* Our monthly VE sessions bring in around 20 new hams a month, all excited and eager to get on the air. When they realize that they have to wait 2 to 3 months (or more sometimes) their energy

wanes. The instant license will get them on the air, get them involved in club/area events, get them trained.

- \* Use of VE assigned callsigns will result in some confusion, for instance both my wife and I are hams and have the same initials. So what, is it a big deal to hear WZ5REB talking to WZ5REB? Sure, you don't hear it now, but you never used to hear AB5ZZ or KC5XYZ either and now it's commonplace. Plus it will only be for 6 months (probably a lot less, like 2 to 3). Again, no problem from my perspective.
- \* I can't tell what class these WZ# calls hold. HA! Can you tell by my call (KA5GLX) what class I am? Hmmm, that's a novice call isn't it. Yup, but I'm an extra! Oops, there goes that argument.
- \* I can't verify who belongs to WZ# calls by calling the FCC. That's true, have you ever tried to call the FCC to verify a 'real' callsign? Good luck. There are some repeaters in town that refuse to let the new Technicians use their repeaters until the call shows up in the callbook. That's really a warm welcome to ham radio isn't it. Guess the WZ#'s will face the same problem. Your choice. I welcome everyone to use the KA5GLX/R repeater. If you are a ham with the proper license, have a good time.
- \* What is a ham? Aha, maybe we have all lost sight of this. You are a ham when you PASS the VE exams. You hold a valid CSCE saying you have 'earned' your license. Therefore, why should you not be able to get on the air? When you turned 16 and passed your driver's license test, did you have to wait to drive until your 'real' license was issued from your state? You can kill someone with a car... what's the worst you can do with a radio?

I think that many people over react to change, of any kind. Yes, it would be nice if the FCC could let the VECs assign via computer a 'real' call from the appropriate callsign group. That day will come soon (so be ready!) This is a very simple method for letting people ENJOY the privileges they have earned. Hey folks, there was a time when you had to wait for the FCC to issue you a new license before you could use your new privileges when you upgraded. How many of you have upgraded and instantly been on your new HF or VHF frequencies with your old call?

I look forward to issuing WZ5XYZ at a future VE session and then hearing that person on the KA5GLX repeater. Welcome to ham radio. We are a friendly group of people just trying to have FUN!

We aren't disarming nuclear weapons here folks, we are just trying to enjoy our hobby.

73 de Bob KA5GLX

KA5GLX@KA5KTH.#SETX.TX.USA.NOAM  
BIEKERT@aol.com Internet

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Date: Thu, 2 Dec 1993 00:45:53 GMT  
From: c1l.dec.com!c1l.dec.com!nntpd.lkg.dec.com!e2big.mko.dec.com!  
peavax.mlo.dec.com!usenet@decwrl.dec.com  
Subject: Logging program for casual contacts  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've been using DXbase by Scientific Solutions for several years. You can download a slide-show demo off their BBS (sorry, don't have the # here). It has a fast and powerful database, tracks DXCC, WAS, WAZ, Oblast and IOTA, and has interfaces to PacketCluster, radio and DVP.

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Jim Reisert AD1C Internet: reisert@mlo.dec.com  
Digital Equipment Corp. UUCP: ...decwrl!mlo.dec.com!reisert  
146 Main Street - ML03-6/C9 Voice: 508-493-5747  
Maynard, MA 01754 FAX: 508-493-0395

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 05:41:16 GMT  
From: bruce.cs.monash.edu.au!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!yeshua.marcam.com!  
news.kei.com!eff!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!  
sdd.hp.com!col.hp.@munnari.oz.au  
Subject: Modem Software to Alert Many Pagers?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

There are several packages that do this. Notify! from Ex Machina knows pager protocols and can work through the pager companies paging computer or call each of them directly as a normal call. It can handle both numeric pagers and alphanumeric ones. They have a version for both the Mac and for Windows.  
Ex Machina is at 45 East 89th St #39A,  
New York, NY 10128

There is also a company called Information Radio Technology in Cleveland at 800-228-8998. Bob Grohol also markets several paging solutions there including one called AlphaPage.

Brian

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Date: Wed, 1 Dec 1993 23:28:49 GMT  
From: news.Hawaii.Edu!uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu!jherman@ames.arpa  
Subject: Pyramid Schemes  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CHCou4.MJ0@freenet.carleton.ca> aj467@Freenet.carleton.ca (Bill Macpherson) writes:

>  
>When you see this crap on the net, everyone of you should reply E-mail to  
>the originators account, with the entire message intact. Maybe his local  
>node will boot him off the air. Maybe they'll catch wind and turn him in.  
>What do you think.  
>  
>--  
>Bill VE3NJW           Advanced Amateur  
>Packet Address : VE3NJW@VE3KYT.#EON.ON.CAN  
>Freenet Address: aj467@Freenet.Carleton.ca

Not to worry, for Julf at anon said he would pull the guy's plug  
if those posts continue.

Jeff NH6IL

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Date: Wed, 1 Dec 1993 00:31:01 GMT  
From: bruce.cs.monash.edu.au!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!yeshua.marcam.com!  
news.kei.com!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!darwin.sura.net!  
hearst.acc.Virginia.EDU!@munnnari.oz.au  
Subject: using a radio off frequency in emergencies  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <holland-291193181932@right.dom.uab.edu>,  
Steve Holland <holland@gasmac.dom.uab.edu> wrote:

>I was looking at the Amateur radio news postings and came across an  
>article about an amateur that was in a remote area who had an injured  
>friend. The story went that after trying several repeaters without  
>success and trying to use a cellular phone without success, he called  
>for help on a police frequency. He was forced to forfeit his radio  
>when the sherriffs department complained. The story goes on from there,  
>and the FCC, the ham, and the Sherriffs office will be meeting in court.

I have a feeling that there is more to this than has met your eye. Perhaps  
it wasn't really an 'emergency' but rather just a difficult situation and

at least in the eyes of the Sheriffs office (and perhaps soon the FCC's) it was not acceptable. As for being forced to forfeit a radio, that seems highly suspicious. You don't even need a license to own a radio.

>I was wondering what is the correct thing to do if one has a radio that  
>can transmit outside of amateur bands and a real, life threatening  
>emergency arises. I thought there was a rule about amateurs being  
>authorized to use any radio at their disposal if normal communications  
>were not available when there was a life threatening emergency. Has  
>anyone any advice on what one should do if a similar event happened to  
>me? No legal advice expected, just interested on what the folks on  
>the net may have to say.

I don't believe you need to be an amateur. I think that ANYONE can use ANY frequency to call for help in a bona fide emergency.

Just be prepared to prove that it was necessary. Emergencies like needing a tow are not as extreme as someone with life threatening injuries or the threat of large scale property damage (like a house on fire, etc) and of course you'll need to prove there was no other reasonable means of communication available.

Probably a pretty difficult thing to do...

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Any opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of The University.

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\\ / Jon Gefaell, Computer Systems Engineer	Amateur Radio, KD4CQY
\\ / A UNIX guy doing Netware - ITC/Carruthers	-Will chmod for Food-
\\ / The University of Virginia, Charlottesville	Hacker@Virginia.EDU

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 21:02:48 GMT  
From: spsgate!mogate!newsgate!nuntius@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: using a radio off frequency in emergencies  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <holland-291193181932@right.dom.uab.edu> Steve Holland, holland@gasmac.dom.uab.edu writes:

>I was wondering what is the correct thing to do if one has a radio that  
>can transmit outside of amateur bands and a real, life threatening  
>emergency arises. I thought there was a rule about amateurs being  
>authorized to use any radio at their disposal if normal communications  
>were not available when there was a life threatening emergency. Has  
>anyone any advice on what one should do if a similar event happened to  
>me? No legal advice expected, just interested on what the folks on

>the net may have to say.

This seems to just the kind of subject that an organization of hams would champion. Lets face it, the San Diego Sheriff's Office hasn't gotten the publicity from this it deserves. A man's life may have been at stake, and a resourceful individual did the responsible thing. He ASKED for permission, passed the traffic, and cleared the frequency when completed. We as hams and as CITIZENS need to speak out loudly and give the San Diego Sheriff's Office the attention they have been seeking. I would recommend the ARRL publicly stand tall and be counted. If this issue is put to bed properly in San Diego, we might not need to address it anywhere else.

Rick Aldom

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Date: Tue, 30 Nov 1993 22:12:43 GMT  
From: bruce.cs.monash.edu.au!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!msuinfo!uwm.edu!news.moneng.mei.com!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!das-news.harvard.edu!cantaloupe.srv.cs.cmu.edu!@munniari.oz.au  
Subject: VHF in Virgin Islands  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'll be in the British Virgin Islands for a week next month. I'm not planning on any HFing, but I was thinking of bring along a VHF/UHF HT. I was wondering:

Will there be anyone to talk to? Repeaters?

If so, and if you have been (or are) there, is it worthwhile (and \$20) to get a reciprocal license and bring my radio? (Obviously subjective - what's your opinion?)

Are the frequency allocations the same as for the US?

thanks, Mike Blackwell - ke3ig - mkb@cs.cmu.edu

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Date: Wed, 1 Dec 1993 18:23:08 GMT  
From: brunix!maxcy2.maxcy.brown.edu!md@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: W5YI's coverage of "temporary callsigns"  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

dan@mystis.wariat.org (Dan Pickersgill N8PKV) writes:

> I could not agree more.

Gee, will wonders never cease? :-)

> As I have stated, I feel that one of the major  
> reasons for ham radio being as "clean" as it is, is accountability.  
> Remove the accountability and the system WILL breakdown (as some falsely  
> claim it has).

The system has broken down somewhat. When the FCC stopped monitoring amateur bands except in cases of gross misconduct, a lot of what goes on today went on in much lesser amounts years ago. Today, someone can cuss on the air with little, if any, concern over what they've done. 15 years ago this was not the case.

> And it makes self policing almost impossible.

But Dan, only a ham-cop would be interested in self-policing. Self-policing means each ham polices themselves. (as some others have appeared to indicate.)

MD

--  
-- Michael P. Deignan  
-- Population Studies & Training Center  
-- Brown University, Box 1916, Providence, RI 02912  
-- (401) 863-7284

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Date: 2 Dec 93 01:21:02 GMT  
From: ogicse!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: W5YI's coverage of "temporary callsigns"  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Dec1.182308.18281@cs.brown.edu> md@maxcy2.maxcy.brown.edu (Michael P. Deignan) writes:

>dan@mystis.wariat.org (Dan Pickersgill N8PKV) writes:

>

>> I could not agree more.

>

>Gee, will wonders never cease? :-)

You'll be thrilled to note that I also agree that instant licensing, as proposed, is a bad idea. I do have an idea how to handle the problem that I'll mention at the end.

>> As I have stated, I feel that one of the major



>> reasons for ham radio being as "clean" as it is, is accountability.  
>> Remove the accountability and the system WILL breakdown (as some falsely  
>> claim it has).

>

>The system has broken down somewhat. When the FCC stopped monitoring  
>amateur bands except in cases of gross misconduct, a lot of what goes  
>on today went on in much lesser amounts years ago. Today, someone  
>can cuss on the air with little, if any, concern over what they've  
>done. 15 years ago this was not the case.

In reality, the FCC never heavily monitored the amateur bands. The FCC did do somewhat more monitoring in the past, but that was for all services, not just amateur. They've slacked off mainly for financial reasons. One of the two broadcast monitoring vans in the country has been parked now for over a year because the engineers needed to run it retired and new ones were not hired. The language and behavior we hear on the bands, however, is more a reflection of changing community standards in society as a whole than it is a reflection of lack of enforcement. Even in the old days the FCC concentrated mainly on technical violations rather than content violations. But the general respect for authority in society was so much higher then that people acted as if Big Brother was watching even when he wasn't.

>> And it makes self policing almost impossible.

>

>But Dan, only a ham-cop would be interested in self-policing. Self-policing  
>means each ham polices themselves. (as some others have appeared to  
>indicate.)

You probably are being sarcastic, but you're right that self policing means the policing of \*self\* with respect to the rules. It doesn't mean playing cop wannabe. That's not to say that we shouldn't be good citizens and report illegal activity we observe to the proper authorities. But just as we don't report every person we see going 56 MPH in a 55 zone, we shouldn't be zealous ham-cops on the bands.

Now here's my modest proposal to solve the instant license "crisis", and incidentally to solve the upgrade problem at the same time. Digital signature systems are now available that are as admissible as hand written signatures on paper forms. With the new computer system the FCC is getting, it should be possible to allow VEs to log on directly, transmit the completed exam information complete with validating digital signature, and receive an automatic call sign assignment in real time, including a Postscript license that laser prints just like the ones the FCC now mails out. This would be the real permanent license of the freshly examined candidate. The old paper mail system could remain in place for instances where the VEs are technically impoverished. I don't think those VEs would get many exam candidates after a while though.

To prevent hacking, public key encryption could be used in both directions with the FCC having a list of the public keys of all accredited VE teams.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	Where my job's going,	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	I don't know. It might	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	wind up in Mexico.	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-NAFTA Blues	

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Date: Wed, 1 Dec 1993 02:57:54 GMT  
From: netcomsv!netcomsv!xyzoom!rob@decwrl.dec.com  
Subject: YHelp with Yaesu FT11R  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Can anyone give me some feedback on the Yaesu FT11R HT? Specifically, what you like/don't like, and are there any modifications published for the radio? Is the extended receive fairly sensitive?

Thanks.

--Rob

--

Rob Lingelbach KB6CUN | 2660 Hollyridge Dr LA CA 90068 213 464 6266 (voice)  
rob@xyzoom.info.com | "I care not much for a man's religion whose dog or  
robl@netcom.com | cat are not the better for it." --Abraham Lincoln

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Date: 2 Dec 93 00:53:22 GMT  
From: ogicse!emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <Nov29.194927.39093@yuma.acns.colostate.edu>, <4926@eram.esi.com.au>,  
<Charles.R.Hohenstein.1-301193115436@mac13.hesburgh.lab.nd.edu>  
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)  
Subject : Re: Calculating SWR

In article <Charles.R.Hohenstein.1-301193115436@mac13.hesburgh.lab.nd.edu>  
Charles.R.Hohenstein.1@nd.edu (Charles R. Hohenstein) writes:  
>In article <4926@eram.esi.com.au>, dave@eram.esi.com.au (Dave Horsfall)  
>wrote:  
>> galen@picea.CFNR.ColoState.EDU (Galen Watts) writes:  
>> | >I am not trying to be mean, but did you sit a radio theory test for your

>> | >amateur license ?

>> Notwithstanding the fact that I distinctly remember seeing that formula  
>> on my own exam (in Australia) and no doubt getting it wrong, don't they  
>> teach you to look up a reference book over there?

>

>The whole point is that this is NOT an electronics newsgroup, but rather a  
>newsgroup for amateur radio operators, not all of whom have--or even need  
>to have--a detailed understanding of how the equipment they operate  
>actually works.

>In this same vein, I will admit my surprise, after sitting for all the U.S.  
>amateur radio examination elements, that there was such an emphasis on  
>electronics, and so very little concerning public service, disaster  
>readiness, first aid procedures, emergency traffic handling, and so on. If  
>we are really intended to be a provider of alternative communications  
>services in times of national emergencies or local disasters, surely such  
>knowledge is at least as important as the ability to homebrew a radio. But  
>for some odd reason these topics are left almost entirely to specific  
>organizations, while EVERYONE is required to have a general knowledge of  
>electronics. Surely both are important. And maybe we could do more to test  
>normal operating procedures as well.

I must disagree with your contention that amateur radio is not a technical service. It most certainly is. The primary difference between the amateur radio service and all other services \*is\* the technical skills we're supposed to be able to bring to bear for electronic communications.

Two of the purposes of the service are to advance the radio art and to develop a pool of trained technicians. And all radio is electronics based, so the skill sets we need are primarily electronic skills. Amateurs are unique in being allowed to operate non-Type Accepted radios, in being allowed to repair them, and in being allowed to manufacture novel circuits for their own use. That certainly requires technical knowledge and skills.

As to the public service, emergency communications, and international goodwill parts of our charter, the rules are clear that we are to act as a \*backup\* to ordinary communications systems licensed for public and emergency services purposes, such as GMRS, common carrier, land mobile, and government. \*Anyone\*, amateur or not, is permitted to use radio equipment in emergencies where there is an immediate threat to life, and there is no other means of communications available. We aren't unique in that respect. We are to bring our technical expertise to bear in situations where ordinary communications systems are overloaded, inoperative, or unavailable. In all other respects, we're to restrict ourselves to comments of a technical nature, or so unimportant that resort to common carriers is not warranted, IE Dxing.

Since the international treaties say our communications are to be

either technical in nature, or unimportant, the exams stress only the important part.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV	Where my job's going,	gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems	I don't know. It might	uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way	wind up in Mexico.	emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244	-NAFTA Blues	

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Date: 2 Dec 93 05:04:28 GMT  
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx10!jmaynard@uunet.uu.net  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <9311292209592.gilbaronw@mn.DLITE@delphi.com>,  
<williams.754643364@maui>, <bote.754781001@access>  
Subject : Re: Repeater calling procedure (Was: Elm

In article <bote.754781001@access>, John Boteler <bote@access.digex.net> wrote:  
>williams@maui.qualcomm.com (Paul Williamson) writes:  
>>There's no substitute for understanding the local lingo, even when it  
>>doesn't seem to make sense.  
>That's why a national organization like the ARRL should  
>get us all signing off the same songsheet so that  
>when we travel we don't have this problem.

Sorry, won't happen.

If the ARRL can't even impose a national band plan, what makes you think they could impose national operating procedures?

(BTW, I consider their inability to impose a national band plan to be a feature, not a bug; if they could do so, we'd be stuck with a technically inferior plan on 2 meters.)

--

Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can  
jmaynard@oac.hsc.uth.tmc.edu | adequately be explained by stupidity.

"The road to Usenet is littered with dead horses." -- Jack Hamilton

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1415

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